

Serial No. **10/750,848**

Docket No. **K-0601**

Amdt. dated February 17, 2006

Reply to Office Action of November 17, 2005

REMARKS

By the present response, Applicant has canceled claims 3 and 8 without disclaimer. Further, Applicant has amended claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 to further clarify the invention. Claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 9-12 remain pending in this application. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

In the Office Action, the drawings have been objected to. Claims 1, 2, 6 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 1 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,181,223 (Baer). Claims 7 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baer. The Examiner indicates that claims 2-5 and 8-11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 2-5 and 8-11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Drawing Objections

The drawings have been objected to because the Examiner asserts that the illustrated

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elements of figure 3 do not correspond with the element numbers of the specification Applicant has amended the drawings to further clarify the invention and respectfully request that these objections be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 6 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant has amended the claims to further clarify the invention and respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

Claims 1 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Baer. Applicant has amended claim 1 with subject matter from claims 2 and 3 deemed allowable by the Examiner. Accordingly, at least for these reasons, these claims are patentable over the cited reference. Applicant respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

Claims 7 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baer. Applicant has amended claim 7 with subject matter from claim 8 deemed allowable by the Examiner. Accordingly, at least for these reasons, these claims are patentable over the cited reference. Applicant respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

Serial No. **10/750,848**

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 9-12 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, Frederick D. Bailey, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached drawings includes changes to Fig. 3. This sheet, which includes Fig. 3, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 3. In Figure 3, previously omitted element ____ has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes (may or may not attach)

FIG. 3

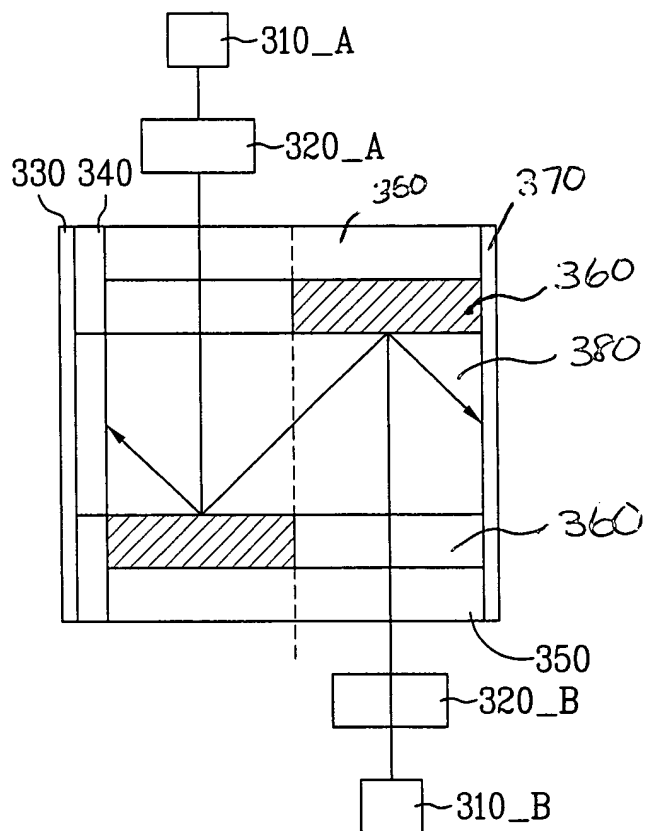


FIG. 4

